

A NEW SPECIES OF *PTEROMICRA* REARED FROM LAND SNAILS,
WITH A KEY TO THE NEARCTIC SPECIES OF THE GENUS
(DIPTERA, SCIOMYZIDAE)

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During the course of an investigation into the biology of the sciomyzid flies¹, the new species described below was reared from puparia found in shells of a locally common land snail. In order to facilitate the preparation of a more extensive paper on the biology of various species of *Pteromicra* it was decided to publish the new species description at the present time.

Three new species of the genus have been recognized since Steyskal (1954) published a key to the known species, and it was felt that an expanded key to the North American species would be of value. The recently discovered species are *inermis* Steyskal (1956), *perissa* Steyskal (1957) and *steyskali* of the present paper.

Pteromicra steyskali, sp. nov.

Male.—Length of body: 2.8-3.7 mm. Length of wing: 2.5-3.2 mm. **Head**: yellowish, shining, upper occiput blackish, posterior half of front brownish, parafacial stripes darker. Face and cheeks yellowish. Palpi wholly yellow. Antennae yellowish, third segment blackish apico-dorsally, arista black, short plumose. Two fronto-orbital bristles, anterior one about half length of posterior bristle. No distinct eye pattern in dried specimens. **Thorax**: largely yellowish, anterior half of mesonotum dark brown to black dorsally, yellowish laterally. Metapleura and pteropleura somewhat brownish, remainder of pleura yellowish. Vallar ridge brown. Pteropleura with homogeneous patch of bristly hairs. **Wings**: membrane hyaline, without darker markings. Halteres with tips whitish. **Legs**: anterior coxae whitish; fore femora with pecten, basal one-fourth to one-third yellowish, remainder black; fore tibiae wholly black; fore tarsi with apical one or two segments whitish, basal segments black. Middle and hind legs wholly yellow. **Abdomen**: brownish, more yellowish basally. Andrium blackish, shining. Terminalia as figured; spiracles of segments six and seven disposed as in figure 3; sixth and seventh sternites very narrow; sixth tergite represented by very slender sclerotized strip; posterior surstylus broad basally, abruptly tapering to a mesally directed point, clothed with numerous dark hairs; anterior surstylus well-developed, turning mesally, more or less rounded apically and with broad lobe posteriorly, clothed with short black hairs.

Female.—Length of body: 3.0-3.8 mm. Length of wing: 2.9-3.5 mm. Coloration as in male.

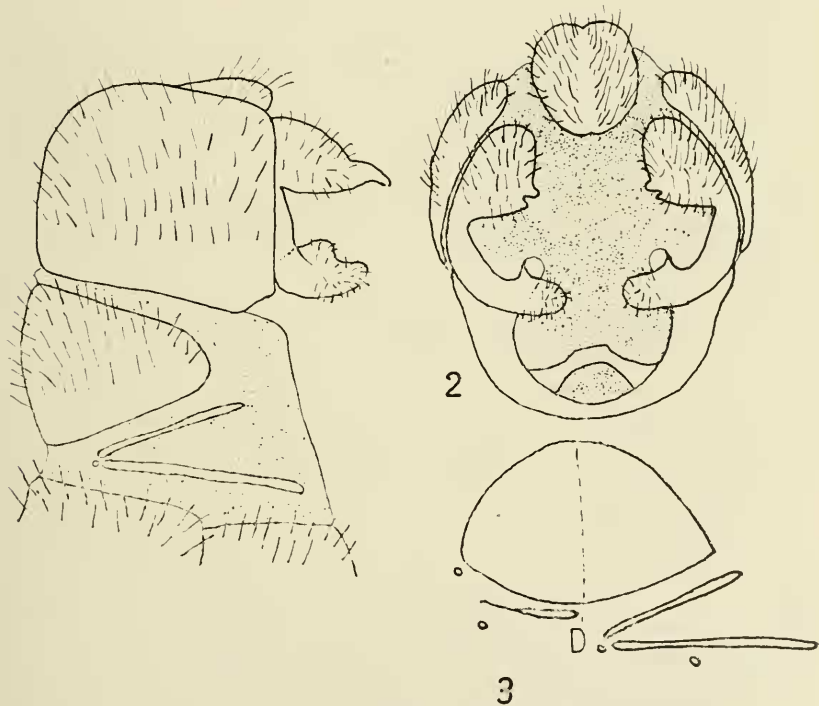
Holotype (male) and allotype.—Inlet Valley, Ithaca, New York, adults emerged May 1, 1957 from puparia found in shells of terres-

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trial snail, *Discus cronkhitei* (Newcomb) collected February 24, 1957, rearing number 5703 (B. A. Foote). In Cornell University Collection.

Paratypes.—7 males, 4 females, same data as for holotype, adults emerged April 9 to April 16, 1957. 3 males, McLean Reservation, Tompkins Co., N. Y., adults emerged April 29 and May 1, 1957, rearing number 5707B (B. A. Foote). 7 males, 2 females, Inlet Valley, Ithaca, N. Y., adults emerged May 10, 1957 (B. A. Foote). 1 male, Ames, Iowa, June 10, 1929 (Hasiabe). All paratypes in Cornell Collection except for the Iowa specimen which is in the Iowa State College Collection.

Remarks.—This species is obviously close in its characters to *P. leucopeza* (Meigen), from which species it can be distinguished by the largely yellowish thoracic dorsum and the distinctive terminalia. I take pleasure in naming this species for Mr. George C. Steyskal, whose numerous papers have contributed greatly to a clarification of the taxonomy of the North American Scioemyzidae.



Pteromiera steyskali, new species: fig. 1, sinistral profile of male terminalia; fig. 2, ventral view of same; fig. 3, diagram of protandrium as if flattened and viewed dorsally (D = mid-dorsal line).

KEY TO THE NEARCTIC SPECIES OF *PTEROMICRA* LIOY

(Modified from Steyskal, 1954)

1. Fore femora without pecten (a series of closely spaced spinules located apically on antero-ventral side of femora); pteropleura with two or three long bristles in addition to several shorter bristly hairs; two fronto-orbital bristles 2
Fore femora with pecten; pteropleura with small patch of short hairs only 4
2. Palpi black, fore femora mostly yellowish *anopla* Steyskal
Palpi yellowish; fore femora mostly black 3
3. Fore femora completely black; tarsi whitish basally *perissa* Steyskal
Fore femora yellowish on basal one-fourth to one-third; tarsi uniformly black *inermis* Steyskal
4. Palpi completely yellow 5
Palpi blackish, at least apically 10
5. Two fronto-orbital bristles 6
Only one fronto-orbital 8
6. Fore tarsi completely black *glabricula* (Fallen)
Fore tarsi with distal segments whitish 7
7. Dorsum of thorax shining black *leucopeza* (Meigen)
Dorsum of thorax mostly yellowish, blackish only anteriorly *steyskali*, sp. n.
8. Thorax wholly black; head largely black *nigrimana* (Meigen)
Thoracic pleura mostly yellowish; head extensively yellow 9
9. Last segment of fore tarsi of female whitish; wing crossveins not darkened *apicata* (Loew)
Last one or two (male) or three (female) segments of fore tarsi whitish; wing veins bordered with grayish *pectorosa* (Hendel)
10. Two fronto-orbital bristles 11
Only one fronto-orbital 12
11. Metapleura black; hind legs wholly yellow *albicalceata* (Cresson)
Metapleura mostly yellowish; apex of hind femora blackish
..... *similis* Steyskal
12. Front yellowish apico-medially; antennae reddish; fore tarsi with apical two or three segments whitish *sphenura* Steyskal
Head completely black (occasionally pruinose on facial orbits) 13
13. Arista white; third antennal segment black; apical two or three segments of fore tarsi whitish *leucothrix* Melander
Arista blackish; third antennal segment reddish; fore tarsi entirely black
..... *melanothrix* Melander

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